

PRESBYTERIANISM.

Election of Professor—Duties of the Church towards the Freedmen—Domestic Missions—Duties of Presbyteries, etc., etc.

Specially reported for the Union and Dispatch.

MEMPHIS, TENN., Nov. 22, 1866.—The Assembly met at nine o'clock this morning, and was opened with prayer.

After several motions, fixing times and places for different business, the report of the Committee on the "Canons of Discipline" was adopted as a whole.

The order of the day was taken up. The Rev. Mr. Alexander read the report of the Committee on "The Relation of the Church to the Freedmen." The Rev. Mr. Girard, chairman of the committee, sent up an elaborate paper, which closely and clearly defined the relations of the freedmen to the white population, the church and the State.

The committee could not agree fully with the chairman's policy, and declined urging any peculiar plan to the Assembly for adoption, only sending the matter down to the Presbyteries without instructions. The committee offered these resolutions, which were discussed and adopted *seriatim* up to No. 5, when it was postponed until 10 o'clock to-morrow.

1. Resolved, That this Assembly entertains for the freed people the sincerest sentiments of good will and affection; that it earnestly desires and prays for their salvation, and would encourage the employment of every legitimate means for the promotion of their spiritual good.

2. Resolved, That it be recommended to all our ministers to exert themselves to the utmost of their ability, to give, as heretofore, the gospel to these people; to church sessions to urge upon parents among them the duty of presenting their children for baptism, and in bringing them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; and especially to evangelists and missionaries to devote a portion of their labor to the promotion of the salvation of the freed people.

3. Resolved, That in the judgment of the Assembly, it is highly inexpedient that there should be an ecclesiastical separation of the white and colored races; that such a measure would threaten evil to both races, and especially to the colored; and that, therefore, it is desirable that every warrantable effort be made affectionately to disengage the freed people from severing their connection with our churches, and to retain them, with us as of old; but that in those cases in which they prefer, though against our judgment, to establish separate organizations, they will carry with them our best wishes for their welfare.

4. Resolved, That in view of the imperfect development of events growing out of the altered condition of the colored people, and the great difficulty of the questions arising from it, the Assembly does not regard the way as clear for a deliverance as to the plan upon which our ecclesiastical relations to them should be constructed, but would submit the whole subject to the wisdom and discretion of the presbyteries, leaving it to them to adopt such measures as they may deem best adapted to the circumstances and wants of the colored congregations severally under their care, and urging it upon them, that in case any changes of the existing system be proposed, respect be had to the question of the preparation of the colored congregations for such changes, and great caution and prudence be exercised in their adoption.

5. Resolved, That it be recommended to the presbyteries in the case of colored persons who may be applicants for introduction into the ministry, to adhere to the course prescribed in the constitution for the examination, license and ordination of candidates for the sacred office.

6. Resolved, That the Assembly recommend that whenever it is practicable, Sabbath schools and mission schools for the benefit of the freed people, especially the young, be established in connection with our churches, and that the sessions of the churches take these schools into their charge and provide suitable teachers for them.

7. Resolved, That the Assembly is not prepared to recommend the adoption of any system of secular education for the freed people, but should any of the presbyteries or churches under their care see fit to establish parochial schools for their benefit, the Assembly would extend its approval to such a measure, provided such schools are under the supervision of the Presbyteries or the sessions of the churches with which they may be connected, and are furnished with such teachers as they shall indorse and provide. Further, that religious instruction on the basis of our standards be incorporated into such schools as a distinctive element.

8. Resolved, That the heads of families are exhorted to afford opportunities to the freed people in their households to attend upon family and public worship, and that they provide for them, so far as possible, catechetical instruction in the doctrines and duties of the Gospel.

9. Resolved, That masters and employers are exhorted to give to their servants and employees the things which are just and equal, to extend to them every facility for attending upon the means of grace, and to provide, so far as in them lies, for the salvation of their souls.

10. Resolved, That the freed people in our communion, who may be servants and employees, are exhorted to render to their masters and employers all proper honor and obedience, not despising them, because they are brethren, but rather doing them service because they are faithful and beloved parakers of the benefit.

Rev. Dr. Baird read the report of the Committee on Theological Education, which was adopted, *seriatim*, until the resolution proposing the change of location for the Theological Seminary at Columbia, S. C., and it was made a special order for to-morrow.

Nominations for vacant chairs in the Columbia Theological Seminary were made, viz:

Didactic and Polemic Theology.—Rev. A. W. Miller, Rev. W. S. Plumer, D. D., Pastoral and Evangelistic Theology and Sacred Rhetoric.—Rev. Jas. A. Lyon, D. D., and Rev. T. V. Moore, D. D. The election was made by order for 12 o'clock to-morrow.

In the afternoon session, Prof. Woodrow, from the committee to whom was referred the majority and minority reports of the Committee upon Revision of the Hymn Book, submitted the following:

The committee to which was referred the report of the Committee of Revision of the Book of Psalms and Hymns, the minority

report presented by the Rev. C. S. Dox, with other papers, begs leave to commend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. Resolved, That the report of the Committee of Revision be approved.
2. Resolved, That the minority report and other papers referred to the committee, be referred to the Committee of Revision.
3. Resolved, That the committee be directed to incorporate in the Book of Psalms not less than fifty from the version used in the Scottish churches, arranging them under the several psalms as part first, second, etc., as it may be deemed best.
4. Resolved, That the Rev. Messrs. Wm. Banks and J. H. Bryson be added to the committee.
5. Resolved, That the committee shall be at liberty to make, in the book submitted as part of the report, such minor alterations, i. e., additions or omissions of psalms or hymns, or changes of phraseology, as it may see fit, after examining the minority report and other papers referred to it by the General Assembly, and also the suggestions made to it by the members of the church.
6. Resolved, That the committee, with the co-operation of the Executive Committee on publication, be directed to publish for the use of the churches at the earliest possible day, the book of psalms and hymns with the changes now ordered or permitted.

The Committee on "The Form of Government," reported that after great labor in going over it three times, and considering a hundred and fifty suggestions, they are perfectly unanimous in every item.

PRESBYTERIES.

SUFFRAGE AND AMNESTY.

Northern Views and Expectations.

The New York Times, in discussing the proposition that the South shall yield to the principle of impartial suffrage, which ignores color at the ballot box, in exchange for general amnesty, which admits all "rebels" to the rights of the franchise and to office holding, indulges the following reflections:

The right of voting makes laws, chooses our rulers and carries on the whole machinery of civil society. Nobody capable of holding any opinion on any subject, can doubt that making laws, choosing rulers and administering the affairs of a great nation, require some qualifications of intelligence and character. Everybody knows, too, that a large proportion of the negroes of the South—those employed as field hands during the rain of slavery—are utterly ignorant—utterly incapable of exercising the slightest judgment, or acting with the least intelligence, in political matters. If admitted to the suffrage they will not vote: they will be simply the tools of somebody who will. This is a necessity of their condition. It is not their fault but their misfortune. Not because they are black, therefore, but because they are ignorant—too ignorant to be wisely and safely intrusted with such a power, it is undesirable that all the negroes should be admitted to vote in the Southern States. Even if the South desired it, it would not command the approval of the North.

Equally unacceptable would be the proposition for a universal amnesty. Such an amnesty would readmit, to every right of citizenship, to every civil and political privilege, to every office, State and Federal, in the United States every man who was engaged in any way in the rebellion. To this we do not believe that the people will assent. They may excuse those who were dragged into secession—or even those who went into it under a sincere belief that their first allegiance was due to their State Government; and they may be willing to see them again in office. But they will not consent that the original authors of the rebellion shall again resume the official power which they so grossly abused. Such a spectacle would shock the public sense of justice as well as create just apprehensions for the public safety. The people recognize a broad distinction in the guilt of the different classes of persons who engaged in the rebellion, and they are willing to make a corresponding distinction in their treatment of them.

Universal suffrage, therefore, instead of being an offset to the objections felt against a universal amnesty, being itself objectionable, would only aggravate the hostility against that measure. A qualified suffrage and a limited amnesty would be much more likely to command the approval of the people. If the South would extend suffrage to the negroes, in common with all other citizens, basing it upon certain conditions, intelligence, payment of taxes, or whatever other qualifications they might prescribe, an amnesty which should remove all disabilities from persons engaged in the rebellion, except that the original authors of the movement should be forever excluded from Federal office, would undoubtedly be conceded by the North.

NOTICE.

I HAVE ADMITTED J. H. RUGGLES AS A partner in my business, dating from the 19th instant.

J. FLOWERS.

NASHVILLE, Nov. 21, 1866.

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nov24-daw6m

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oct20-1m-4p

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Claims against the United States Government for property taken during the war.

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INSURE THEIR SPEEDY PAYMENT.

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nov23-3m

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They should be planted during this month.

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GAS AND STEAM FITTERS.

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Opposite Colonnade Building, Nashville, Tennessee.

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SHEET LEAD

IRON, and BRASS PIPE, and

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Of every description, etc., etc.

Chandeliers, Brackets, Gas Fixtures, and Fitting,

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Good Chance for a Home.

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deceased, fronting 52 feet on Broad street and

running back 150 feet, on which is a desirable and

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TWO STORY BRICK DWELLING

Containing eight rooms, good cellars, closets, and

every convenience. Sale to take place at 12 o'clock,

and purchasers will please examine the premises

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Terms: One-third cash, balance twelve and eight-

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Residence and Extensive

Tan-Yard;

Together with a Stock of Two Thousand Sides of

Leather, in the vats. The dwelling contains six

rooms, and there are buildings on the premises

well adapted to the business of tanning, and

convenient to carry on the Tan-Yard and Shoe-Shop

which is well organized with competent hands.

The Tanner thoroughly understands the business

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most competent and reliable workmen in the

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The demands for Leather and Shoes are sufficient to

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The Tan-Yard property embraces Eighty Acres

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